

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2280

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 10428

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, FERF

SUBJ: FAR EAST REFUGEE PROGRAM (FERP)

REF: A) HONG KONG 8903 (REPEATED GENEVA)

B) GENEVA 5900

1. IN REF A AND IN CONSUL GENERAL'S LETTER OF AUGUST 8, CONGEN TOOK THE POSITION THAT A CONTINUING REFUGEE PROGRAM IN HONG KONG COULD BEST BE HANDLED BY HONG KONG IF WE WERE ABLE TO MUSTER THE PERSONNEL RESOURCES NECESSARY TO DO THE JOB. IN HIS RESPONSE, AMBASSADOR KELLOGG SUGGESTED THAT, AFTER DICK HART'S RETURN TO POST, A TEAM COULD BE SENT FROM GENEVA TO OUTLINE HOW THE REFUGEE PROGRAM COULD BE ADMINISTERED FROM THERE. AFTER CONSIDERING THIS ALTERNATIVE, THE CONSUL GENERAL COULD DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT THE PROGRAM IN ITS ENTIRETY SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE HANDLED IN HONG KONG. DICK HART HAS NOW RETURNED AND WE HAVE REVIEWED THE SITUATION WITH HIM. IT IS OUR CONCLUSION THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ADMINISTERING THE PROGRAM SHOULD REMAIN WITH THE CONSULATE GENERAL.

2. OUR CONCLUSION IS BASED ON SEVERAL ASSUMPTIONS: ONE IS THAT THE PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME FUNDING LEVEL, BUT AT A REDUCED LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IN VIEW OF THE INFLATIONARY IMPACT. ANOTHER IS THAT THE VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ARE WELL ACQUAINTED WITH  
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CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS, AS IS THE FSL ASSIGNED TO REFUGEE

AFFAIRS, AND WILL REQUIRE LESS SUPERVISION BY AN AMERICAN OFFICER THAN HERETOFORE. IN ANY CASE, WE WOULD USE DICK HART PART TIME FOR NECESSARY GENERAL GUIDANCE AND SUPERVISION, TOGETHER WITH ANOTHER OFFICER FROM THE ECONOMIC SECTION WHO HAS STOOD IN FOR HART IN PAST AND ANOTHER OFFICER FROM THE CONSULAR SECTION WHO IS TRAINED ENGINEER FOR SPECIFIC TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM, SUCH AS ON-SITE INSPECTIONS. FISCAL AND ACCOUNTING ASPECTS WOULD, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO BE HANDLED BY THE QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED FSL NOW SO ASSIGNED. WE FEEL THAT, THOUGH SOMEWHAT DIVIDED, ON-SPOT SUPERVISION AND ADMINISTRATION IN HONG KONG WOULD PROVIDE MORE EFFECTIVE CONTROL THAN THAT PROVIDED AT A DISTANCE FROM GENEVA WITH THE CONGEN CONTINUING AS INTERMEDIARY TO THE HONG KONG AGENCIES AND INDIVIDUALS CARRYING OUT THE PROGRAM.

3. THEREFORE, IN THAT WE SEEM TO HAVE RESOLVED PERSONNEL ASPECTS OF PROGRAM, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDE FINAL APPROVAL FOR THE CONGEN TO RETURN TO THE ARRANGEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM IN HONG KONG. THIS WOULD MAKE IT UNNECESSARY FOR MISSION OFFICER TO MAKE TIME-CONSUMING TRIP TO HONG KONG.  
CROSS

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## Message Attributes

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